the results come from the CBI, I don't think the Government can take any decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question, Q. No. 128.

Denial of sophisticated technology

*128. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that developed nations are denying sophisticated technology to India through misplaced and anachronistic restrictions;

(b) if so, whether the non-availability of foreign sophisticated technology has impeded our scientific efforts in any way;

(c) whether the country has developed facilities to test and integrate new generation of satellites; and

(d) if so, the distinct advantages thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Several control regimes restrict the access of advanced technologies.

(b) The country has forged ahead in spite of the restrictions through indigenisation of critical technologies by pooling national talent and design adaptation and use of alternative sources.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The country has set up sophisticated facilities to meet the requirements for test and integration of new generation satellites for meeting the requirements of national programmes and constantly upgrades them in tune with advancing technologies. In addition to saving time, effort and cost, it also avoids dependence on foreign facilities.

श्री विजय जे॰ दर्डा: सर, भारत में ऐसे कौन-कौन से संगठन हैं जोकि नई तकनीक के हस्तांतरण से संबंध रखते हैं तथा पोखरण-2 के पश्चात ऐसे कितने संगठन हैं, जिन पर विकसित देशों ने प्रतिबंध लगा रखा है?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, sanctions have been continually put on India right from 1992. However, from 2001, the sanctions have been relaxed. As of now, Sir, only three Space Department entities are on the US Commerce Department Entities List. These are Satish Dhawan Space

Centre at SHAR, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre and Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Target of broadband internet

*129. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has fallen short of its target of reaching 3 million subscriber base in broadband internet; and

(b) if so, whether it is due to turf war between internet service providers, bandwidth providers and telecom operators offering last mile connectivity?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN) (a) Government has envisaged 3 million broadband subscribers by the end of 2005. As per available information, the total number of broadband internet subscribers in the country, as on 31.10.2005, is around 7.1 lakhs.

(b) Internet Service Providers were allowed to access the subscribers on optical fibre cable and microwave in local area. Later on, in April, 2004, permission to lay underground copper cable to offer last mile connectivity was also granted.

Further, access providers are free to enter into mutually agreed arrangements for utilization of available copper loop for expansion of broadband services.

As per the recent announcement of the Government, National Long Distance and International Long Distance Service Providers (Bandwidth providers) are also permitted to access subscribers directly for provisioning of leased circuits.

Therefore, it will not be correct to conclude that the target of reaching 3-million subscriber base in broadband internet is affected by turf war between Internet Service Providers, Bandwidth Providers and Telecom Operators Offering last mile connectivity.